The opinion in support of the decision being entered today was <u>not</u> written for publication and is <u>not</u> binding precedent of the Board.

Paper No. 32

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

BEFORE THE BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS AND INTERFERENCES

Ex parte ERNST HENDRIK AUGUST GRANNEMAN ALBERT HASPER AND JAN ZINGER

Appeal No. 2002-1760 Application 09/355,509

ORDER REMANDING TO EXAMINER

On July 22, 2002, a Reply Brief (Paper No. 30) was filed in response to the Examiner's Answer mailed May 21, 2002 (Paper No. 28). Accordingly, there is no indication in the record of whether or not the examiner has considered the Reply Brief. Section 1.193(b)(1) of the <u>Code of Federal Regulations</u> (1998) states:

(b)(1) Appellant may file a reply brief to an examiner's answer within two months from the date of such examiner's answer..... The primary examiner must either acknowledge receipt and entry of the reply brief or withdraw the final rejection and reopen prosecution to respond to the reply brief.

Therefore, it is

ORDERED that the application is remanded to the Examiner for proper response to the Reply Brief and for such further action as may be appropriate.

It is important that the Board of Patent Appeals and Interference be informed

Appeal No. 2002-1760 Application 09/355,509

promptly of any action affecting the status of the appeal (i.e., abandonment, issue, reopening prosecution).

BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS AND INTERFERENCES

By: _____

DALE M. SHAW
Program and Resource Administrator
(703) 308-9797

DMS:caw

KNOBBE, MARTENS, OLSON & BEAR LLP 620 NEWPORT CENTER DRIVE SIXTEENTH FLOOR NEWPORT BEACH, CA 92660